WALL STREET SLANDERS CHINESE REVOLUTION
(See Page 3)

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Vol. XVIII — No. 50 | 267 | NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1954 | PRICE: 10 Cents

SWP Convention Keynotes Class Struggle Policy

By Fred Hart

The Sixteenth Convention of the Socialist Workers Party, held in Chicago Dec. 3-5, concentrated its main attention on an analysis of the immediate political situation in the United States and the effects of world developments on this situation.

FARRELL DOBBS

Three days of intensive discussion revolved around important recent changes in the world and domestic political scene. The determination of the tasks and tactical line of the party, in light of the political situation, was the second primary question considered.

The main reports to the convention were given by Farrell Dobbs, National Secretary of the SWP, James P. Cannon, National Chairman, Murry Weiss and Joseph Hansen, members of the National Committee.

The convention adopted, after extensive discussion two main resolutions: The Political Situation in the U.S. and the Resolution on the American Labor Movement. The convention also decided to launch a $15,,000 fund to promote propaganda for the class struggle socialist program.

THREE MAIN FACTORS

The reporter on the Political Resolution, cited as the three main factors of the new political situation in the U.S. "**the slow-down of Wall Street's drive towards World War III, the important set-back suffered by the McCarthyites, and the renewal of a trend toward a labor-Democratic Party coalition government as the dominant political perspective for 1956.**"

The recent moves of American capitalism towards "peaceful coexistence," it was noted, are taking place against a background of a world situation evolving to the disadvantage of American capitalism. The rise of the independence movements of the colonial people, the strides of the anti-imperialist, anti-capitalist revolution in China, repeated setbacks to the plans for American imperialist domination of the world, have forced the Wall Street Eisenhower administration to slow down their war drive. The world situation is stalemated at the moment. The counter-revolutionary gains American capitalism has made since the end of the Second World War, tend to be cancelled out by the progress of the anti-capitalist revolutionary forces.

The resolution on the Political Situation, which took its point of departure from this world situation, stated that the socialist position was unqualifiedly for peace and against the war moves of the capitalist powers. **It pointed to the fact that the only serious force which has prevented war up to now has been the world-wide revolutionary movements of the workers and farmers. Therefore the policy of the Kremlin and the Stalinist parties, which consists of bartering the revolutionary interests of the workers for diplomatic concessions from imperialism, constitutes the greatest betrayal of the struggle for peace.**

McCARTHYITE SET-BACK

The Political Resolution noted the set-back of McCarthyism during the last few months. This set-back was determined by the decision of the ruling capitalist group represented by Eisenhower. The decision was in part dictated by the tactical needs of American capitalism in the sphere of foreign policy. An uncontrolled fascist demagogue couldn't be per-

(Continued on page 4)

CIO Convention Gives Alarm On Automation Peril to Jobs

Top Democrat Parley Woos Dixiecrat Wing

By George Lavan

Their mouths watering from the taste of victory in the recent elections and scenting all-out triumph in 1956, politicos of the Democratic National Committee met on Dec. 3 and 4, in New Orleans. It was the best attended and most lovey-dovey gathering of the bigwigs of the Democratic machine held in the Deep South in two decades.

The meeting elected a new national committee chairman, dropped the Democratic Party loyalty pledge from its rules and listened to a speech by Adlai Stevenson.

The conclave was marked by the jockeying of the disparate elements of the Democratic Party for positions of advantage at the next convention. Indeed, the formal actions of the meeting had importance only as they reflected the struggle and deals made in the proverbial smoke-filled hotel rooms by the big city ward heelers, Southern Bourbons and Northern Liberals. **Labor which had played such an important role in the recent elections did not figure as a separate group.**

"WILSONIAN DEMOCRAT"

The outstanding test of strength centered over the election of a new National Chairman of the party. The election of Paul Butler, Indiana National Committeeman, against the opposition of former President Truman showed that, at present, Adlai Stevenson has the dominant position and the best chances to be the candidate in 1956.

The Stevenson forces pushed through the election of Butler by a voting combination of the Southern and Western Democratic machines. Butler got 21 of the 24 Southern votes. Aside from the fact that he had Stevenson's blessing, not much is known about Butler. He is a lawyer and a Roman Catholic (it is an unwritten rule that Democratic National Chairmen must be Catholic). According to political commentators Butler is "a smoother operator" than Stephen A. Mitchell, the retiring Democratic National Chairman. He describes himself as a "Wilsonian Democrat." **That reveals little and is calculated to appease the labor and liberal wings of the party, since Wilson was a liberal but of the 1912 variety, and at the same time reassure the Southerners since Wilson came from Virginia.**

The meeting clearly revealed the enhanced power and prestige of the South in the top circles of the party. The choice of New Orlans for the session was in this respect not at all accidental. Similarly the arbiter of the session

(Continued on page 2)

N. Y. Democratic Officials Deaf To Strikers' Plea

By Tom Denver

BROOKLYN, Dec. 6 — The need for political action as the only effective way to combat the runaway shop was the main issue tonight at a meeting of locals of the independent United Electrical Workers Union at the Hotel St. George.

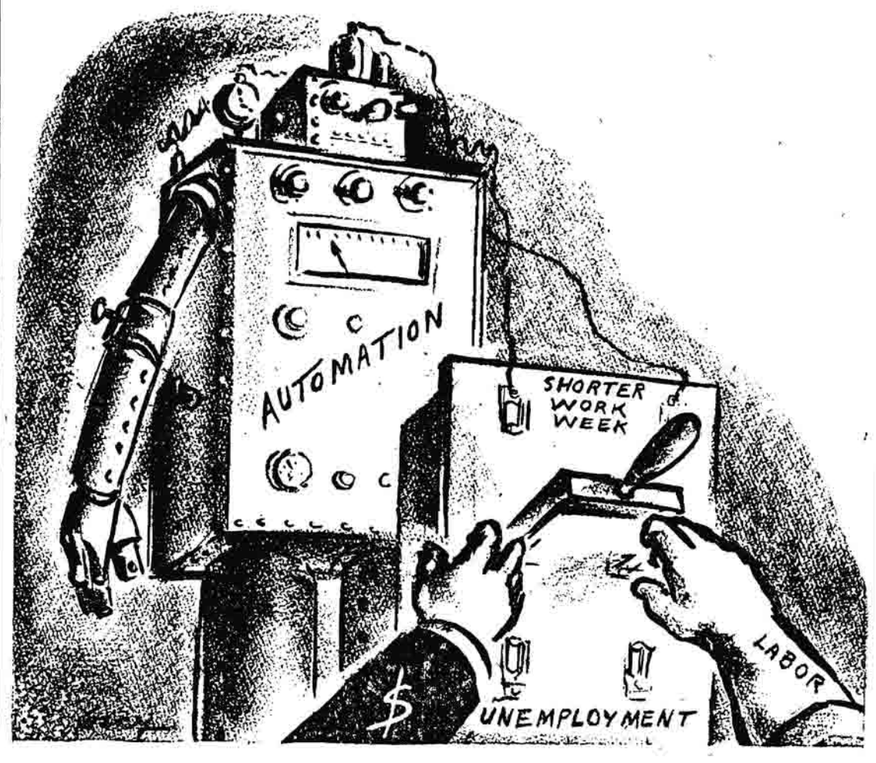
The union's General President, Albert J. Fitzgerald pledged the full support of the UE in a program to boycott the products of the American Safety Razor Corporation which is running away to the south without paying the pensions and severance pay agreed upon in negotiations with Local 475 last August. He announced that some union locals and many rank and file unionists were requesting information on runaway shops. When he reported that the powerful UAW-CIO Ford Local 600 in Detroit had requested information on the ASR strike there was a burst of enthusiastic applause from the audience — particularly the strikers.

ON THEIR OWN

The ASR workers have been on strike for ten weeks against the combined forces of the company and the city administration. **They have been forced to rely on their own resources. Had the rest of the New York labor movement rallied to their support the ASR workers would not be faced today with the grim prospect of losing their pensions and severance pay — some of them after 30 and more years of work for the company.**

Cliff Cameron, president of the striking local wound up the meeting with a review of the strike and a program of action for the next period. He pointed out that the Democratic city administration's cops had broken the picket line of the ASR strikers the day after the elections. Despite the union's efforts to contact Democratic city officials, including Mayor Wagner, Cameron said, "They didn't even have the courtesy to reply."

In Which Hand the Power?



Issue Stirs Debate in All Circles

By Myra Tanner

DEC. 8 — The 16th Annual Convention of the CIO opened in Los Angeles, Dec. 6, and precipitated a national controversy over a crucial issue of the coming 1955 union contract negotiations — the threat of mass unemployment resulting from the rapid progress of automation in American Industry.

The N. Y. Times, Dec. 6, reports from Los Angeles: "The Congress of Industrial Organization asked the Federal Government today to speed guarantees that automatic factories would not result in mass unemployment and economic disaster."

Important agencies of Big Business have hastened to attack the CIO position. The National Association of Manufacturers meeting in New York, Dec. 3, heard John Diebold, editor of Automatic Control, predict: "Automation may well find itself in the middle of 1955's hottest labor management disputes. . ." Other NAM speakers attacked labor's concern with automation and demands for a Guaranteed Annual Wage as "pure nonsense."

The Wall Street Journal Dec. 7, charged that "the introduction of labor-saving machines almost always stirs misgivings in union officials." The cynical editors of this paper assume an air of surprised innocence: "The more widely automation is adopted, the faster the American worker will augment his hours of leisure as well as his physical comforts. Is Mr. Reuther against that?"

UNIONS WORRIED

The unions have become increasingly worried during the last year by the automation developments. It is part of the larger picture of mergers, runaways, the upward climb of mass unemployment during 1954, wage cutting, Taft-Hartleyism and the growing list of states which have adopted union-busting "right to work" laws.

The union can see the tremendous benefits the prospect of automation hold out for the workers; that's not what bothers them, it is simply that they fear, out of long experience, that technological advances under capitalism will be used to grind the workers down unless organized struggle by the unions prevents this.

At the Economic and Collective Bargaining Conference of the UAW-CIO in Detroit, Nov. 12-13, a Report on Automation was circulated to the delegates, and later published in Local 600's Ford Facts, Nov. 20. The Report says that according to one economic specialist, the auto industry may become fully automated within a decade. "This, according to another economist, will mean that one man will do at least the work now done by five men." The Report quotes another authority who points out that this would mean, "that 200,000 men could match the present output of the million UAW members in the automobile industry."

The Report On Automation, published in Ford Facts, declares:

(Continued on page 3)

MURDER OF WM. REMINGTON REVEALS DANGER TO ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS

The beating to death of William W. Remington on Nov. 23 in the Northeastern Federal Penitentiary has raised a question of burning importance before American and world public opinion: What is happening to the political prisoners in the U.S.?

Remington was a political prisoner. He was a framed-up victim of the anti-"Communist" witch hunt started under Truman and now conducted by the Eisenhower administration. He was thrown in prison without the protection and immunities that even Czarist Russia provided for its political prisoners. He was assaulted under mysterious circumstances, and died after his skull was caved in by three inmates.

There are over a hundred victims of the Smith "Gag" Act either in prison or under indictment. Dozens of others are in prison, or on their way, on charges of perjury, contempt, deportation proceedings etc.

What's happening to these political prisoners?

An outstanding example of the way the witch hunt pursues its victims right into the jails is the case of Morton Sobell, who was sentenced to 30 years in the Rosenberg Trial, and is serving his time in the dread hell-hole of Alcatraz.

HELEN SOBELL'S PLEA

On Nov. 24, Helen Sobell, wife of the Alcatraz prisoner, sent the following telegram to James V. Bennett, Federal Director of Prisons in Washington:

"I am extremely concerned for the safety of my husband, Morton Sobell. I feel that the criminal attack on William Remington is another instance of the kind of pressure and intimidation which has been directed against my husband and which resulted in his unjustifiable placement in Alcatraz.

"Recently the FBI visited my husband to ask him to change his testimony and say that he was guilty and that Ethel and Julius Rosenberg were guilty. I feel that these visits might have been an attempt to focus unfavorable attention on him by the other inmates of Alcatraz, with whom he has always maintained good relations.

"William Remington's death convinces me that there is a real danger to my husband from these visits. I ask you to insure the safety of my husband by removing him from Alcatraz, where he has been so recently subjected to these provocations. My husband must not be hurt or killed while we are taking steps toward proving his innocence."

THOMPSON CASE

The murder of Remington recalls the attack on Robert Thompson, Smith Act victim, in West Street jail, Oct. 23, 1953. Thompson was beaten over the head with a lead pipe by a hoodlum, who sought to escape deportation by this unprovoked assault on Thompson. He obviously hoped to be rewarded for his "anti-Communism." Thompson narrowly missed suffering the fate of Remington.

Meanwhile, the well-informed Washington journalist I. F. Stone reports in his Weekly, Dec. 6, that Congressmen Joel T. Broyhill (R-Va.) plans to "resume his attacks at the next session on James V. Bennett, the Federal director of prisons. Broyhill accuses Bennett of being too kindly in dealing with political prisoners."

DRAFT EXTENSION, UMT WILSON'S GIFT FOR XMAS

By way of a Christmas present to U.S. youth, the Eisenhower administration, through Defense Secretary Wilson, has announced it will press Congress to extend the draft, due to expire June 30, 1955, for another five years and to install in addition "a modified form of Universal Military Training." The Wall Street Journal, a mouthpiece of financiers and speculators, reported, Dec. 1, that this proposed "military reserve system . . . will call for training about 100,000 young men a year for six-month periods, then assigning them to organized reserve outfits. They would be in addition to men drafted for two-year active duty periods."

Roughly 276,000 youth are now conscripted annually into the Army for two years, then enrolled in reserves for another six years, subject to call, any time, any place. **The powerful military caste is not satisfied with this huge conscript army, unknown in U.S. peacetime history. They want to militarize the entire youth. Thwarted in their previous attempts to introduce universal conscription via the UMT, they have evidently decided to achieve the same goal piecemeal. They now demand "only" another 100,000 a year.**

Wilson told his Nov. 30 news conference that these new recruits would be boys "19 or younger," salting his interview with still another "dog story." This is too brash a move even for the reactionary editors of The Wall Street Journal. In a Dec. 7 editorial they caution their military colleagues not to be so incautious, deprecating their new assault upon the youth as "useless," "costly," "dangerous" and "unwise." **What they fear, quite justifiably in our opinion, is growing popular resentment against, as they put it, the "pretty objectionable institution" of "enforced military service."**

German Rearmament Key Issue in Cold War Shift

By Daniel Roberts

DEC. 8 — The name for the new foreign policy of the Eisenhower Administration has evolved in the last week from "modus vivendi," "peaceful coexistence" and "competitive coexistence" to the more precise designations of "armed truce," "armed coexistence" and "cold peace."

The new policy itself has become more sharply defined by Wall Street and its British and French allies.

Involved is no change in strategic aim, which the 1952 Republican platform defined as "liberation" of Eastern Europe and China — that is, the waging of counter-revolutionary war against these countries and the Soviet Union. However, Wall Street now decidedly favors a slowing down of the drive to war in line with the actual relation of forces between the Soviet bloc and the People's Republic of China on the one hand and the capitalist powers on the other.

Thus Joseph C. Harsch, one of the best informed journalists for the capitalist press writes in the Nov. 30 Christian Science Monitor that "the signs are by now conclusive, I think, that the great powers are getting ready for the first serious East-West negotiation of the so-called cold war."

The preconditions for such negotiations, says Harsch, have already been set by the western powers. "There must first be a ratification of the London-Paris agreements by all participating powers." These agreements call for the rearmament of Germany, which Wall Street wants to achieve in order eventually to launch a war against the Soviet Union.

CHURCHILL'S SCHEME

Moscow, Harsch believes, has already accepted the inevitability of the ratifications and is "merely marking time until they come about." In a four power conference, the western nations would then be prepared to bargain about limiting the extent of German rearmament, and an agreement might emerge on that basis.

That this is the scheme that the ruling capitalist circles in the U.S., England and France really have in mind was indicated on Nov. 30 when Prime Minister Winston Churchill again admitted that in 1945 he stood prepared to rearm the defeated German armies for war against the Soviet troops.

On this occasion Churchill related his 1945 action to the diplomacy of the present. "In those days," he said ". . . the thought which filled my mind was that all the efforts we had made to free Europe from a totalitarian regime of the west might go for nought if we allowed so much of Europe to fall into the hands of the totalitarian regime from the east."

He explained to Parliament that his policy in 1945 was in line with the course which led the Western powers four years afterward to form the North Atlantic Treaty Organization "and now sign the London and Paris agreements."

Commenting on Churchill's speeches, Joseph Harsch says that Churchill had "given all of us a practical example of how to combine 'coexistence' with prudence and vigilance."

The same combination of a

CHIANG KAI-SHEK

preparation to negotiate with a hardening of the military preparations seems now to feature the Eisenhower Administration's policy toward China.

In his press conference on Dec. 2, President Eisenhower categorically rejected the notion that the Seventh Fleet should blockade the Chinese coast in retaliation for the imprisonment of eleven U.S. fliers. "A blockade," he said, "is an act of war."

At the same time, the Administration signed a mutual security treaty with Chiang Kai-shek undertaking to rush aid to him should the Peking regime try to capture the island.

The Peking regime wants to end the domination of Formosa — an integral part of China — by Chiang Kai-shek. They view his control of the island as a basis from which the U.S. government might launch a counter-revolutionary war. By ratifying a defensive treaty with Chiang, Secretary of State Dulles made clear that Wall Street does not abandon its long term intention to conquer China.

The pact with Chiang, however, was considered significant by a number of journalists in that it did not guarantee the defense of the coastal islands of Quemoy and the Tachens now held by Chiang's forces. These islands might have been left out of the treaty as bargaining points with Peking.

The dispute over the new Eisenhower foreign policy has produced a deep rift in the Republican Party between the Eisenhower wing speaking for the main sections of Big Business and Sen. Knowland, (R-Calif.).

"The President does not want to see his party split if it can be helped," said Roscoe Drummond in the Dec. 1 N. Y. Herald Tribune, "But he is now fully convinced that if (the Knowland-McCarthy group) want to fight the middle-road leadership and middle-road policies of their own party, it will be better for the . . . Republican party as a whole if they make a clean break and establish their own party."

This deepening cleavage between the Eisenhower wing and the Knowland-McCarthy bloc confirms the estimate that Wall Street has made a definite turn in its foreign policy. The ruling circles of the U.S. are still preparing for World War III, but they intend to do so more slowly, more cautiously and are forced to agree to ease some of the tensions of the cold war for the time being.

What Do Demos Say?

On Dec. 7, James P. Mitchell, Eisenhower's Secretary of Labor, spoke against state "right to work" laws before the National CIO convention in Los Angeles. Walter Reuther, president of the CIO, and a Democratic Party supporter, then asked the White House to help nullify these laws. The White House stated that Mitchell's speech was his "own idea." The recent National Committe of the Democratic Party, meeting in the deep South, where these laws are most prevalent, took no stand on "right to work" measures.

Birth Control Education Needed

Recent exposes indicate that the police of New York City are frequently corrupt and that they are apt to be lax in the performance of their duties. But there's one job they take quite seriously. Their pursuit of abortionists has been so effective that most of the doctors who formerly performed abortions have retired from the business, leaving it to midwives and frauds. In New York today it is difficult to locate an abortionist at all and even an outright quack will charge as much as $300. The minimum price for a "medical" abortion is $400 to $500 and may run as high as $2,500.

I learned about this remarkably efficient police job in the New York Post's series on "Unwed Mothers." It seems puzzling to me that with violent crimes like murder, rape and robbery so common, the police should devote so much of their time and attention to this particular field. It's unlikely that they have greatly reduced the number of abortions but they have certainly made them more expensive and more dangerous.

The Post admits that a strong case could be made out for legalized abortion but it would be "highly academic." Religious opposition would prevent the passage of such a measure and probably no politician could be found to introduce it. The Post does point out the obvious advantages of legalized abortion. When undertaken by a competent doctor, abortion is simple and safe. If it were legal, the price would come down and the quacks would go out of business. They concede this might be preferable to bootleg surgery and illegitimate births.

I believe the basis for much of the objection to a measure like legalized abortion is a feeling that the pain, danger and humiliation of an illegal operation is an appropriate punishment for the "sin" committed. Most moralists, instead of pointing out any positive advantages to morality, warn that deviations will be severely punished by social ostracism (which is no longer very effective), disease or unwanted pregnancy. Unfortunately for this thesis, the "punishment" falls alike on guilty and innocent, for the majority of the women who resort to abortion are not young girls who have gone astray. It is estimated that about 80% are women who already have several children and don't see how they can take care of another. Since they are driven by police "efficiency" to the worst type of practitioner, the abortion frequently has serious effects on the health of these mothers, and it may be fatal. It is impossible to estimate how many young wives die, how many children are left motherless, because of the concerted efforts of police and professional moralists to make abortion an almost unobtainable, and extremely dangerous luxury.

Since legalized abortion is academic, the Post finds no other remedy for the situation except the expansion of shelters for unmarried mothers and a stepped-up publicity campaign for these shelters so that more girls will go to them. In spite of a high rate of "illegitimacy" the shelters are not crowded. Girls receive good physical care and counselling and social workers are surprised that they seem reluctant to apply for help and prefer to stick it out by themselves in a furnished room. I am not so surprised myself, as I have a rough idea what this "counselling" probably means.

My own suggestion is elementary but was somehow overlooked by the Post. Birth control would certainly be a lot cheaper and easier than abortions and maternity shelters. If birth control information was included in public school hygiene courses when children reach adolescence, there might be surprisingly little need for these shelters and police might have time on their hands.

We could also achieve the socially desirable goal of having children born to parents who want them and who are in a position to care for them. Psychologists tell us that a basic factor in the emotional health of children is the feeling that they are wanted, so this could also be an important step in preventing some of the emotional difficulties of today's young people.

How and Why M'Carthy Was Curbed

By Daniel Roberts

DEC. 3.—In voting to condemn McCarthy by a vote of 67-22 the U.S. Senate threw out the count which would have censured the Wisconsin Senator for his abuse of Gen. Zwicker. The Senate confined its rebuke to two counts of abusive language used against fellow-Senators which impared "the dignity of the Senate."

The Watkins committee had decided to make Gen. Zwicker a "symbol" of the citizens browbeaten by McCarthy. That is how Sen. Monroney (D-Okla.) in the Senate debate on Dec. 2, presented the issue. By standing up for the general the committee had called on the Senate to defend the rights of all witnesses summoned before the witch-hunting "investigating" groups.

It would have been more to the point, of course, to denounce the third degree McCarthy gave to Major Peress, who was the real victim in the episode involving Gen. Zwicker. But the Senate would not even defend the general, let alone Peress. The Senators didn't want to strike out against McCarthy in any way that might encroach on the witch hunt and lessen its effectiveness.

In fact, the Big Business politicians welcomed McCarthy's role in the witch hunt, but did not want his attacks to extend to the traditional institutions through which the capitalists rule the U.S. These institutions include the Senate and the Republican and Democratic Parties. That is why the "dignity of the Senate" was upheld in the censure resolution, but the symbolic act of defending ordinary people (even if the symbol was a high-placed general) went out the window.

FLANDERS BACKS DOWN

By the same token, Sen. Ralph Flanders (R-Vt.) who made the original motion to censure McCarthy—apologized on Dec. 2 for a speech last summer in which he compared McCarthy to Hitler. Here, again, it was a question of restricting the conflict within the ruling circles.

A Hitler, after all, is not the exclusive concern of the U.S. Senate but of the entire population, especially the working people. But Big Business does not want the working people to join the debate over McCarthyism, and hopes to close the McCarthy issue with the censure action.

Flander's apology notwithstanding, the Hitlerite character of the McCarthyite movement was proved to the hilt during the course of the Senate debates on censure. McCarthy's opening speech, in which he charged that the Watkins Committee members were "attorneys-in-fact" and "unwitting hand-maidens" for the "Communist conspiracy," was straight fascist propaganda. Sen. Jenner (R-Ind.) went even further, charging on Nov. 15 that several Senators might be secret members of the "conspiracy."

The resemblance to Hitler stood out glaringly in the content of letters that McCarthyites wrote to Senators who favored censure. Sen. Fulbright quoted a number of them in his Senate speech on Nov. 30.

One such letter, signed by G.G. Gurley, president of an oil company in San Antonio, Tex., ranted that Sen. Lehman (D-N.Y.) "should be deported out of this Nation to Russia or let Germany take that 'bird' in and give him the gas like Hitler did." Another one fulminated against "Red-loving Fulbright and the rotten Jew, Herbert Lehman, the pal of Hiss."

G.L.K. SMITH IN THE ACT

Besides these letters, the Christian National Crusade, headed by Gerald L.K. Smith, addressed posters to the Senators filled with Hitler-like attacks on McCarthy's opponents—including Sen. Flanders.

The leading capitalist circles have accomplished all they want against McCarthyism with the passage of the censure motion. From their standpoint the job is now finished. They have restricted McCarthy's field of activities and made it quite clear that he no longer has the run of the Senate or the Republican Party.

The Dec. 3 N. Y. Times editorial correctly says "This (censure) was no minor reproof for Mr. McCarthy." At the same time his movement is not smashed, but is held in reserve for use by Big Business when the ruling circles consider the time more suitable for launching a fascist offensive against the labor movement.

From the point of view of the working people, however, the struggle against McCarthyism is not yet over. As William S. White states in the Dec. 6 N.Y. Times, McCarthy's "devoted personal following is by every usual standard of measurement quite a large one." The working people will have to watch the McCarthyites carefully, for the menace of fascism that they present has been postponed but not eliminated.

One of the Coast Guard security charges against a longshoreman who is undergoing "screening" on the West Coast is: "That in 1942 you were an honorary pall bearer at the funeral of Tom Mooney."

NAM Opposes Wage Demands; Wants Tax Cut

By Roy Gale

Two thousand members of the National Association of Manufacturers met in New York's Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, Dec. 1-3, to consider some of the problems of American Big Business. High on their list of problems was the demand voiced by many unions for a guaranteed Annual Wage.

The UAW-CIO, at its economic conference in Detroit Nov. 12-13, released a report on the question of automation. The report stated: "The establishment of the guaranteed annual wage becomes imperative for workers in the face of these new and revolutionary technological changes developing in our economy."

GAW "PURE NONSENSE"

The NAM convention answered the UAW demand in two ways: (1) they denied that automation created the danger of mass unemployment; (2) they made clear that any proposal based on the idea that full employment and economic security for the workers comes first was incompatible with the capitalist profit system—and therefore ridiculous.

John Diebold, editor of the magazine Automatic Control, said to the convention: "Grim predictions and black pictures of jobless workers roaming the streets aimlessly while fully automatic factories grind out endless streams of products are based on a lack of understanding and perspectives concerning automation."

Gerry E. Morse, vice-president of the Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Company, led the attack against the "pure nonsense" of a Guaranteed Annual Wage:

"Steady sales are what make steady production," said Mr. Morse. "That in turn means steady work and steady pay. Any guarantee of employment or pay that reduces the flexibility, stability or financial strength of a company jeopardizes the very result that the plan is seeking to attain. Because no company could long meet its payroll if it were losing business, the idea that it could guarantee employment or pay is pure nonsense."

In effect Mr. Morse is saying, capitalism cannot guarantee the workers a year-round job. For the capitalists steady sales, that is, steady realization of profits, comes first. No sales, no profits, no jobs.

POLL ON PROFIT SYSTEM

H. C. McCellan of Los Angeles, retiring NAM president, let slip some very interesting information in his speech about the attitude of the youth towards the capitalist system. "Several years ago a well known public opinion research firm canvassed 1,250 twelfth graders," he said. "Of these young students, only 39% favored keeping the 'profit system.' Seventy-six per cent said most of the gains from new machinery go to owners. In answer to the question 'should a worker produce all he can?' 67% said 'No.'"

The N. Y. Times, Dec. 4, carried this passage in its early editions but deleted it in the subsequent editions for the day. Could it be that this poll was more injurious to the prestige of the capitalist system than the Times could permit?

No gathering of American Big Businessmen would be complete without an attack on Karl Marx. This time the gentlemen of the NAM really extended themselves. **According to the Times report Fred Maytag, 2nd chairman of the association's taxation committee, "charged that the present tax system was 'conceived by Karl Marx to liquidate the middle class,' and he blamed it for 95% of the country's troubles."**

TAX CUTS FOR GREEDY

Mr. Maytag, not satisfied with the whopping tax cuts allowed Big Business by the last congress, issued a call for a Federal income tax ceiling of 35%. He warned his listeners: "We may have thrown at us the old charge of 'tax relief for the greedy but not for the needy.' But he indicated the capitalists would survive this "unjust" charge if they stood firm.

Mr. Maytag then threw out an insulting sop to the workers: "During and after accomplishment of this ("tax relief for the greedy") plan, additional opportunities for tax reduction be largely used to bring down the first bracket of individual tax — which would provide the greatest benefit to the greatest number of taxpayers."

Just so that no one could misunderstand his real class position Mr. Maytag advised his fellow captains of industry to get "familiar with the book by Harvard's professor Sanders called 'Effects of Taxation on Executives', which presents a moving drama of instance after instance in which high rates have frustrated human incentives."

NAM Nemesis

Karl Marx, founder of scientific socialism was blamed by a recent gathering of the National Association of Manufacturers for 95% of the country's woes. Big Business has spent millions of advertising dollars in the past decade to proclaim that Marx's theories have been exploded and his influence in America nil.

Hiss Freed

Alger Hiss, released after serving 44 months in a federal prison on charges of "perjury," is shown above in his New York City home. He served his sentence in Lewisburgh Penitentiary where William Remington was recently beaten to death. Hiss vowed he would continue the fight to prove his innocence.

...Democratic Parley

(Continued from page 1)

was Texas Democrat Sam Rayburn, who will soon take over as Speaker of the House. This reflects the Washington scene where Southern Democrats will hold a majority of committee chairmanships in the new Congress.

The most tangible prize the South got at New Orleans, however, was the the removal of the so-called Democratic loyalty oath, which had been enacted at the 1952 convention. This had been the culmination of the fight over the stand of the Democratic Party on civil rights and the Dixiecrat movement.

The loyalty oath required delegates to promise that they would work to put the presidential and vice-presidential candidates on the ballot in their states as the candidates of the Democratic Party.

Although this passed at the last Democratic convention, the liberals who had pushed it weakened at the last minute and did not require Southern delegates to sign.

At New Orleans the Northern liberals tried to conciliate the white supremacists, states-right Dixiecrats and 1952 bolters to Eisenhower by agreeing to strike the loyalty oath from the partys rules. **Symbolically the figures chosen to reach this agreement were Senator Humprey of Minnesota and Governor Battle of Virginia who at the 1952 convention had been the respective leaders of the liberals and the states-righters on the oath fight.**

BID TO WALL ST.

At the $100-a-plate dinner which concluded the session in New Orleans, Adlai Stevenson spoke. He dwelt on the disunity on Asia policy in the Republican Party and made a bid to Eisenhower to take Asia and all foreign policy out of politics. This offer of bi-partisanship is an effort to convince Wall Street that the Democratic Party is safer on foreign policy than the Republican with its "irresponsible" Knowland-McCarthy wing.

...SWP Convention

(Continued from page 1)

mitted to run wild at a time when cautious maneuvers on the international arena were dictated to Washington by the whole world situation. Also, it is now clear, that although the American capitalists valued McCarthy's services as a pace setter in the the witch hunt, they were by no means willing to allow him to replace the fundamental institutions of capitalist democracy through which they rule with a Hitler-like dictatorship at the present time.

The censure move against McCarthy represented the decision to put McCarthy under wraps and cut down his power to the actual strength he commands independently. This strength, as shown in the elections, reveals the McCarthyite fascists to be a minority of a minority party.

The change in the specific weight of the McCarthyites in American politics does not eliminate McCarthyism as a factor in the current political situation. Nor does it remove the long range threat of this and other incipient fascist movements to the American working class.

DEMOCRATIC TREND

The Political Resolution and the Resolution on the Labor Movement focused major attention on the fact that a deepgoing trend toward a revival of the Democratic Party-labor coalition government has been under way during the past year. Only two years after the victory of the outright Big Business Republican party in the 1952 elections, a sufficient shift has taken place to change the control of both houses of Congress from the Republicans to the other capitalist party, the Democrats, a party which has always proven more skillful at adapting itself to the radical moods of the American working people.

The Political Resolution proceeded from the premise that the first duty of Marxists in the United States is to see the reality of this trend, what it signifies for the political perspective of the next period and adjust its tactics and activities accordingly.

The important thing noted in the Political Resolution on the results of the 1954 elections is how the workers, in the decisive industrial centers where the unions are strongest, voted as a class bloc for the Democratic Party. This time, unlike in the Roosevelt days, it was not for this or that individual "friend of labor," but for the Democratic Party. **It showed that the workers have not yet finished their experience with illusions of class collaboration in politics. But at the same time it showed that they desire more than ever before to act as an organized class in affecting the outcome of contests between the capitalist parties.**

REVOLUTIONARY REALISM

The convention discussion revealed that the SWP was fully conscious of the reality of the present political situation. The convention sternly rejected all tendencies toward unrealism and wishful thinking. The SWP understands the profound progressive significance of the striving of the workers to express their political interests as a class. But it also understands that these interests are for the present completely channelized by the treacherous class collaborationist labor bureaucrats. It sees the situation as it is, not as it would like it to be. It adapts its tactics and the tempo of its activities to the reality.

At the same time the SWP is in no way inclined to adapt its principles to the passing trend, no matter how dominant that trend may be at the moment. It sees in the situation, above all, the need and the opportunity to advance the class struggle program of socialism against the class treachery of the labor officials and the Stalinists.

James P. Cannon, in an inspiring speech summarizing the work of the convention, expressed the orientation of the party as follows: "Our task for the next two years is the pedagogical explanation of the principles of the class struggle in politics, and the recruitment of class conscious militants into the party. That's the great revolutionary work of our time. That's the work of preparation for the future. If you have an historical perspective, if you see the tide of history working in favor of the socialist transformation of society, and if in the midst of that development you understand that you can't jump over the head of the working class but must move at its tempo, and in the meantime you have an opportunity to explain, to carry out your function as the conscious expression of this unconscious historic process, and you are able to recruit new people as we are doing, then I'd say that's the realistic revolutionary work of the moment."

Calls NAACP Trouble-Seeker After Minnesota Negroes Help Elect Him

By Winifred Nelson

ST. PAUL, Dec. 1.—Minnesota's attorney-general-elect Miles Lord met with officials of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People here yesterday, in an attempt to patch up a dispute which burst like a bombshell in the Negro community after the recent elections.

The newly-elected attorney-general, in a telephone interview with the Spokesman and Recorder, Twin Cities Negro newspapers, had criticized the NAACP for being "too direct in their approach" to civil rights problems, and "going out of their way to find trouble."

After meeting with Lord for two and a half hours yesterday, however, NAACP officials, headed by Rev. Denzil Carty, state president of the organization, issued a statement whitewashing Lord.

"There is no disagreement in principle," the NAACP statement said in part. "The misunderstanding arose between the definition and connotation of certain words and concepts."

This statement contradicts the earlier stand of the Negro press which had carried stories severely critical of Lord. **A half-page editorial headed "We Apparently Made a Mistake" apologized to the readers of the Spokesman and Recorder for the papers' "grievous, dangerous error" in endorsing Lord, and said they had been taken in by Lord's party label (Democratic-Farmer Labor) which they thought meant he was a "true liberal"!**

(The Recorder and Spokesman did not apologize for, nor even mention, their failure to bring before Minnesota's Negro population a true picture of candidates in the fall election campaign. While the capitalist newspapers of the Twin Cities carried campaign statements and biographical material on all of the candidates, the Negro press ignored Socialist and independent candidates, only listing those of the two major parties!)

Democratic-Farmer Labor officials and newly-elected state officials refused to be quoted directly on the Lord affair, but hurried to assure their supporters, who were troubled by this anti-civil rights demonstration, that the whole matter would soon be straightened out.

Apparently, Lord has satisfied his DFL cohorts with his statement yesterday that "all people are entitled to equal rights guaranteed under our state and federal constitutions." But Minnesota's Negro voters are going to think twice before accepting the endorsements of their leadership next time.

Lord's open and crass disregard of the Negro people, after he was elected with their support, has demonstrated once again that for workers, colored and white, there can be no trust or reliance in capitalist politicians.

Quebec's Infamous "Padlock Law"

QUEBEC'S "PADLOCK LAW," passed unanimously in 1937 by the Provincial Assembly and Legislative Council, is slated to remain on the statute books, judging by the witch hunt sentiments of the legislative session, which opened in mid-November 1954. This law empowers the provincial police to padlock any house used for "Communist purposes" and thus bar it from being rented for a period of one year. Mere presence of "Communist literature" is ground for invoking the law. Quebec landlords, naturally enough, are not too happy about this, to say nothing of the genuine friends of civil liberties. A case is still pending in Canadian courts, where, according to the Nov. 18 N. Y. Times, "The provincial police . . . found Communist literature and padlocked the door. The landlord went to court to prove that . . . the tenant had not properly occupied the premises. The tenant countered that he had properly occupied the premises and the provincial law was illegal." The author of this law is Quebec's Premier M. Duplessis, who since 1937 has also acted as "his own Attorney General." Of Canada's ten provinces, Quebec alone has passed such a law.

THE MILITANT ARMY

Literature Agent **Carol Houston** reports the successful close of Chicago's recent literature and Militant campaign. "The Magnets team won with 842 points. The Dynamos placed second with 831 points and the Meteors were third with 492 points. **Jacki**, of the Dynamos, had the most individual points. Her score of 265 won her the choice of a book.

"Recent sales are as follows: **Bert** and **Will** sold 20 Trumbull Park pamphlets on the campus. **Gus, George** and **Sheavy** sold 33 Militants and 27 pamphlets at a union meeting. And **Mary Lou** and **Dotty** sold 66 pamphlets at another union meeting."

St. Louis Literature Agent **Dick Carter** reports a good sale on his route of nine Militants to old customers and four to new ones.

St. Paul Literature Agent **Winifred Nelson** writes, "**Jack B.** and I sold several Militants at the CIO hall a few weeks ago and were quite pleased. This was the special issue analyzing the election returns and telling of the UAW '55 contract fights. It was a small IUE meeting, about 30 present."

Seattle Literature Agent **Helen Baker** reports, "We had a very successful route sale today. One of our salesmen was ill so **Ann** and I covered the territories as far as we could. All together we sold 15 papers, three Trumbull Park pamphlets, and one copy of Fourth International. **Frank** and **Jack** went to the Church of the People where they were having a discussion on the need for a labor party. They sold four FI's there following the discussion. Next week they are going to take the remainder of our Trumbull Park pamphlets there and probably will sell them out. **Charlie** as always takes his six copies to sell to the people he works with. **Frank** is going to take this week's issue to the steel mill."

Many thanks to **J.K.B.** of **St. Paul** for his donation of 50c. sent in with his Militant renewal.

C.H.D. of **Pottstown, Penna.** writes, "Thanks for keeping my sub going. Things were pretty tough around here with several thousand of Firestone out on strike and Dohlers laying off many workers. I hope to be able to read the Militant many years ahead and wish you every success."

Subscribe!

Start your subscription now. Clip the coupon and mail it in today. Send $1.50 for six months subscription or $3 for a full year to The Militant, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

Name .....

Street ..... Zone .....

City ..... State .....

☐ $1.50 Six months ☐ $3.00 Full year ☐ New ☐ Renewal

BOUND VOLUMES Available

1952 Militant $5.00
1950-51 F.I. $6.00

For orders and prices on previous years, address:

The Militant
116 University Place
New York 3, N.Y.

Fascism and Big Business

By DANIEL GUERIN

A thorough scientific analysis of the social bases of fascism — fascist strategy on the march to power — and fascism in power.

Long out-of-print — but a very few copies still available at $4 per copy

PIONEER PUBLISHERS
116 University Place New York 3, N.Y.

Subscription $3 per year: $1.50 for 6 months. Foreign: $4.50 per year; $2.25 for 6 months. Canadian: $3.50 per year; $1.75 for 6 months. Bundle Orders: 5 or more copies 6c each in U.S., 7c each in foreign countries.

THE MILITANT

Published Weekly in the Interests of the Working People
THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION
116 University Pl., N. Y. 3, N. Y. Phone: AL 5-7460
Editor: JOSEPH HANSEN
Business Manager: DOROTHY JOHNSON

Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent The Militant's policies. These are expressed in its editorials.

"Entered as second class matter March 7, 1944 at the Post Office at New York, N.Y., under the act of March 3, 1879."

Vol. XVIII — No. 50 Monday, December 13, 1954

The Fruits of Class Collaboration

The AFL and CIO bureaucrats are wailing (but not too loudly) about the destruction of the union movement in Guatemala by the U.S. State Department-sponsored dictatorship of Castillo Armas. Walter Reuther added his crocodile tears in passing in his Annual Report to the CIO Convention in Los Angeles.

Not many months ago the labor officials assured the American workers that the violent overthrow of the Arbenz government was organized solely in the interests of democracy which was allegedly threatened by a "Communist" plot. Representatives of the CIO and AFL had been told by Colonel Armas and his boss, U.S. Ambassador Puerifoy, that none of the social gains made under the democratically elected Arbenz regime would be destroyed. They were promised that unions would be protected and only "reorganized" in order to eliminate the "communists." And the union bureaucrats passed on the promises as good coin.

A few months ago the CIO officials boasted that they "assisted in the reconstruction of a free union movement" in Guatemala. Now, however, they are forced to say that they are engaged in "the defense of labor against a comeback of reaction and feudalism." (CIO News, Dec. 6). Romualdi, the AFL Representative to Latin America, complains that a number of large Guatemalan concerns "plan to eliminate from their industries not only Communist elements but also all those whom they classify as 'agitators', meaning every active unionist." (American Federationist, Sept.).

Dictator Armas and his U.S. backers had only one "liberation" in mind when they made their counter-revolution. And that was to "liberate" United Fruit and the native landlords from the power of the organized workers and peasants in Guatemala. Unrestricted exploitation of the Guatemalan people was their real goal.

No sooner did Armas take power than the land reforms conceded by the Arbenz regime were cancelled. The most powerful unions in the country, the Railway and Teacher's unions, and the two labor syndicates on the United Fruit Company's plantations have been smashed. Union property has been confiscated. Pro-union workers have been jailed by the thousands and tortured. Reports persist that mass executions of unionists are scheduled.

All this was accomplished with the blessings of the American union officials in the name of spreading the doctrines of the "free world." The labor officials echoed the lies of the imperialists and their Guatemalan puppets. They served as Wall Street's left cover for the establishment of a naked dictatorship of the rapacious United Fruit gang.

In Guatemala the American labor officials got more than they bargained for. But isn't it a fact that what happened in Guatemala, is the logical outcome of the policy of subordinating the independent interests of the workers to collaboration with the bosses. The union officials only wanted to remove militant trade union leaders and place a government in power that would be pleasing to their Wall Street bosses. But they got a fascist dictatorship in the bargain. What frightens the CIO-AFL officials is that now, under Armas, all unionists, even bureaucrats like themselves, are subject to the axe.

Parade of Prime Ministers

In the ancient world the road to Rome was always crowded with proconsuls, satraps, vassals, puppet rulers, etc., making their way to the fountain head of imperial power. So today there is a jostling procession of foreign dignitaries, especially prime ministers, to the headquarters and treasure house of world capitalism — Washington, D. C.

These trips are usually billed as good-will tours and in one sense they are. They are attempts to gain the good will of U.S. Big Business' top executive committee. Getting this good will isn't always easy — it takes a lot of cajolery, secret promises and political abasement. But come they must — not even the octogenarian Churchill is excused this duty.

The task is all the harder because the people back home are highly suspicious about what their prime ministers may be selling secretly in return for Washington's "good will" (i.e. money and armaments).

This is particularly true of the Asian peoples. Their profound understanding of imperialism — including U.S. imperialism — is based on centuries of first-hand experience. They are extremely — and correctly — jealous of *any* bartering away of the political independence of their new nations. Moreover their sympathies are with all anti-imperialist struggles. They have watched with growing anger Washington's imperialist policies in China, Korea and Viet Nam. Hence their distrust of visits by their prime ministers to Washington.

This explains several cases of recent good-will tours that ended with unseemly haste.

Thus Pakistan's Prime Minister Mohammed Ali cut short his visit to the U.S. because opponents back home decided that there was no more auspicious moment for a palace revolution against him than while he was in Washington, D. C.

Premier Yoshida of Japan found that his troubles trying to extract economic aid out of Eisenhower's cabinet of innocent millionaires were as nothing compared to the political troubles that developed in his own party back home which promise to cost him his premiership.

It is no wonder that the Prime Minister of Ceylon, Sir John Kotelawala, began to have misgivings about his scheduled trip to world capitalism's modern Mecca. He was canny enough to try to appease home opinion before he left. In a speech unprecedented for a "good-will" tour he made a public declaration to the effect that he was not going to Washington cap in hand to beg or bargain away his country's interests.

If he talks that way down in Washington he will get mighty little. Fortunately for these politicians, however, the Washington talks are completely secret.

It will be Sir John's task to convince the gimlet-eyed bankers, militarists and tycoons who run the U.S. government that what he has to give them is such a bargain that they should forgive a little "independent" talk on his part, which is meant, after all, for home consumption.

Premier Sir John Kotelawala has a very difficult task. The principal working class party in his country is the Lanka Sama Samaja — a Trotskyist mass movement. It will be quick to detect any sale of military, naval, diplomatic or trade rights of the people of Ceylon to Wall Street. And it will be merciless in the exposure of any "good-will" who attempts it.

McCarthy's Latest Move

McCarthy's open break with Eisenhower, Dec. 7, accompanied by a frontal attack on the president for "softness" toward "Communism" at home and abroad is not merely a retaliatory blow for the administration's sponsorship and support of the Senate's condemnation of McCarthy. It is rather the culmination of a long process, marked by a deepening clash between the conservative Big Business wing of the Republican Party and the McCarthyite faction which represents the core of an incipient fascist movement in the United States.

The conflict between the McCarthyites and the Republican brass was suppressed during the 1952 elections in the interests of the overriding Big Business strategy of placing their own direct representative — Eisenhower — into power.

On Nov. 24, 1953 the struggle flared into the open when McCarthy made his nation-wide radio-TV speech after the Brownell-Eisenhower engineered smear of former president Harry Truman as a "harborer of spies." In that speech McCarthy obliquely attacked Eisenhower for "softness on Communism" and proposed himself as the banner bearer of the Republican Party in the 1954 election on the platform: For McCarthy or for Communism.

The struggle then swung behind the scenes until it again became public in the Army-McCarthy hearings. During the hearings McCarthy sharpened his attack on Eisenhower by pointedly extending his "20 years of treason" charge against the Democrats to "21 years of treason," which included the first year of the Eisenhower administration.

The next move was the Watkins Committee censure proposal. It became clear that a top level decision had been reached by Wall Street's ruling political group. McCarthy was to be boxed into a corner — not destroyed — but contained. Big Business was not ready for the extreme measure of entrusting its fate to a fascist savior.

Now the McCarthyites, while much weakened factionally, show the tendency to develop a more independent political machine, and even to flirt with a third party venture.

While the political situation does not offer a clear road to the would-be fascist leader, the very existence of the McCarthyite movement is an ever-present challenge to labor. In the long run a show down between the labor movement and the fascists will have to take place.

THE ROAD TO PEACE

This pamphlet by James P. Cannon is must reading for anyone opposed to another war. It explains why peace cannot be won by following the Stalinist program and outlines Lenin's real views on this life and death question, with particular application to America.

25 Cents

::

Order from

PIONEER PUBLISHERS
116 University Pl. New York 3, N.Y.

Wall Street Slanders the Chinese Revolution

By Carl Goodman

The dispute between the Eisenhower-Dulles wing of the Republican Party and Sen. Knowland over whether to blockade China is a tactical one. Both sides are sworn enemies of the Chinese revolution and want to crush it, so that China can be reopened to exploitation by the U.S. Big Business corporations. They differ among themselves only as to timing.

Eisenhower and Dulles, speaking for the dominant sections of Big Business know they can't go ahead now. They know that the world trend is against them. And they are keenly aware of the fact that the majority of the American people will not support a war against the Chinese. That is one of the reasons why the warmakers must go slow now.

Vivid in their memories is the experience last April when the Eisenhower Administration secretly decided to send troops to Indo-China and found itself forced to change its plans because of the swelling opposition in the U.S. to a new "police-action" in Asia. The Gallup poll of March, 1954, recorded that 85% of the American people opposed sending troops to Indo-China as against a bare 8% in favor, according to the May 7 U.S. News and World Report.

But if Eisenhower and Dulles do not see eye-to-eye with Sen. Knowland and his crowd about blockading China, they agree fully on a campaign of slander against China. They want to convince the American people that the government of the People's Republic of China is an outlaw that commits international "atrocities."

They want us to believe that the Chinese people are eagerly awaiting the day when U.S. troops will come to "liberate" them by restoring Chiang Kai-shek to power on the Chinese mainland. Eventually they hope by means of their slander campaign to poison the minds of the American people and take the country into war.

The spokesmen of Wall Street carefully cover up what they themselves admitted only a few years ago about the nature of the new China. During the "Great Debate" over U.S. policy in Asia which shook the American ruling circles in the Winter and Spring of 1951, some of the most reactionary spokesmen for Big Business blurted out the truth about the Chinese revolution.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur in his speech to Congress on April 20, 1951—**in which he preached immediate war with China** — said: "The people of Asia found their opportunity in (World War II) . . . to throw off the shackles of colonialism and now see the dawn of new opportunity, and heretofore unfelt dignity, and the self-respect of political freedom."

The war-mongering general also admitted that the Chinese Communist Party was no puppet of the Kremlin but an independent force propelled on the revolutionary road by the irresistible will of the Chinese workers and peasants.

A few weeks later, Walter Lippman, a leading journalist of the American capitalist class, wrote in the N. Y. Herald-Tribune: 'The Chinese revolution . . . is doing what its two great historic predecessors, the French and the Russian revolutions did before it, it is fighting . . . to complete and consolidate its victory by crushing and expelling all the native opposition and all foreign intervention."

ASIA'S "1776"

Richard Deverall, AFL representative to the Free Trade Union Committee in Asia, wrote in the Dec. 1950 American Federationist, **"A veritable revolution has in successive waves swept the vast areas of Asia . . . We find a vast area of the world now embarking on the adventure that was America's after 1776. Asia seeks to break the colonial chains."**

The generals, conservative journalists, and labor bureaucrats don't speak that way anymore. But the validity of what they said a few short years ago hasn't changed. The revolution is still in process in China. The masses of the country still see "the dawn of a new opportunity" before them. They are still determined to remake their lives and tear themselves out of colonial bondage and economic backwardness.

And they are succeeding! Slowly, painfully, at the cost of enormous sacrifices, it is true. But they are succeeding just the same. And that is what alarms Wall Street. That is why all the spokesmen for U.S. Big Business vilify the People's Republic of China.

The Chinese peasants during the course of a few short years have ended the exploitation of semi-feudal landlords and usurers—the former allies of imperialist rule. They have begun the division of the land and increased production.

CHINA'S SUCCESSES

Countless women entered the struggle against centuries of degradation and semi-slavery. The revolution put an end to concubinage, buying and selling of wives and daughters, and the existence of slave girls for cheap labor or prostitution. It placed women on an equal plane of legal rights with men. The revolution is wiping out illiteracy. Finally, China has begun an ambitious program of industrializing the country through a series of five-year plans.

It is true that the Chinese Communist Party carries out the program dictatorially, and often demands unnecessary sacrifices from the workers. It has instituted unbearable speed-ups in many places. The unions tend to act as administrative organs of the government instead of defending the interests of the workers against the state. Honest militants who disagree with the undemocratic way in which the CP carries through the revolutionary changes have been jailed and executed.

But the workers and peasants will not exchange their present government for a return to the bloody and corrupt dictatorship of Chiang Kai-shek, the pawn of Wall Street. Clement Attlee, leader of the British Labor Party, who headed a delegation to China last summer, was stating the sober truth when he said, "In all my travels I never met anyone who felt that the Kuomintang (Chiang's party) could be reinstated."

WE MUST GET AT FACTS

No wonder. Progress for the Chinese people does not lie in going back but in pushing forward, developing the revolution, building up the industry of the country. The duty of the working people in the U.S. is to learn all the facts about the heroic endeavor of the Chinese workers and peasants and support them.

We must not permit Big Business to threaten, smear, blockade or wage war against the Chinese revolution. We must seek to ease the tremendous strain of the Chinese people by winning diplomatic recognition for the Peking regime and extending it maximum economic aid.

Army Witch-Hunt Victim Demands Honorable Discharge in Test Case

Norman Thomas, Socialist Party leader, and David Riesman, professor of sociology at the University of Chicago, appeared before the Army Discharge Review Board at the Pentagon in Washington on Dec. 8 on behalf of Barry Miller, who has been denied an honorable discharge from the U.S. Army.

Following their testimony at the Pentagon Mr. Thomas and Professor Reisman held a press conference at the National Press Club to explain the issues in the Barry Miller case, and its importance for future inductees.

"DEROGATORY"

Barry Miller was inducted in June 1952. In the following 18 months he made satisfactory progress as an enlisted man in the Signal Corps. He was promoted Private First Class and made an instructor in a radio repair course. Then in December, 1953, he was informed by the Adjutant General that "derogatory" information had been received about his political activities before induction.

In reply Miller stated he had belonged to the Politics Club and the Socialist Youth League, two recognized campus organizations, when he had been a student at the University of Chicago. These organizations were, moreover, not only unconnected with the Communist Party but were opponents of the Communist Party. Finally Miller requested a formal hearing.

PROMISE GIVEN

In answer to Miller's letter the Adjutant General wrote: **". . . you will be retained in the service in your present grade, that you will not be promoted and that upon completion of your term of service you will be discharged with a type of discharge appropriate to the character of the service you have rendered. . ."**

In the remaining period of his army service Miller had an excellent service record. He was appointed Acting Corporal and recommended for promotion to regular Corporal; he received a "Letter of Appreciation" from the chief instructor of the Microwave Radio Repair Branch at Fort Monmouth. Nevertheless, on June 7, 1954 he was reduced in rank to a Private E-1. Next day, eleven days before his period of enlistment was up, he was kicked out of the army with an Undesirable Discharge.

DECIDED TO FIGHT

Miller was determined to fight the witch-hunt injustice perpetrated on him in flagrant violation of the Adjutant General's written promise that the type of discharge given him would be based on his service. He secured the assistance of the Workers Defense League. It has publicized the case and furnished legal assistance.

As a result of the WDL's activity the Army, without granting Miller a hearing, reversed itself and changed the Undesirable Discharge to a General Discharge. **This is still not the Honorable Discharge that Miller deserves and is fighting for.**

It has taken six months of struggle by Miller and the WDL to secure the Dec. 8 hearing. Miller's case is being presented by Rowland Watts, Baltimore attorney and National Secretary of the WDL. Prof. Riesman and 70-year old Norman Thomas journeyed to Washington to testify on Miller's behalf. Prof. Riesman is well known for his books, The Lonely Crowd and Our Changing Times.

. . . CIO Stirs Automation Debate

(Continued from page 1)

"If automation is irresponsibly introduced and exploited, it will bring unemployment and misery instead of security and abundance. The radical productivity increases which will accompany automation make it necessary to intensify the fight for an economy based on full production and full employment."

FREE ENTERPRISE

What kind of an economy is that? Certainly it is not a capitalist economy. And most certainly it is not a capitalist economy operating without any union interference with the much advertised "free enterprise, free market relations." Without the fierce opposition of militant union struggles capitalism utilizes every technological development and every scientific advance, to create huge armies of unemployed and to beat down the wage levels of the workers.

The problem is how to fight these basic drives of the capitalist system.

It is exactly on this point that the UAW Report on Automation bogs down. It would seem that the first line of defense of the unions against either "depression unemployment" or "technological unemployment" would be the demand for a shorter work week with no reduction in pay.

But the Report, as well as the decisions of the Detroit UAW-CIO Economic Conference, postpones the struggle for the shorter work week and "looks forward to the day when we will take our place in the vanguard of the American trade union movement, in the next round of the historic struggle for a shorter work week."

WHY WAIT?

Why "look forward" in the fight for the shorter work week? Isn't the struggle on the order of the day right now? Even with the effects of automation in its earliest stages, and with at least one third of the economy propped up by war production, the American workers were plagued by 5,000,000 jobless during 1954. If you took away war production, and released millions of young men from the armed services, we would right now be thrust into the worst depression in the history of the country — if the capitalist system was permitted to continue.

The clue to the reluctance of the Reuther officials to fight now for the shorter work week is given in the Report on Automation: "Barring an increase in international tensions requiring greatly increased diversion of economic resources to defense production, the timing of the fight for a shorter work-week depends basically on the rate of acceleration of productivity advances. . ."

This formula contains the truth about Reuther's real position masked in a cowardly evasion.

The truth is that the Reutherites bank on the increase of war production or at the very least the continuation of the enormous armament expenditures to prop up the sagging capitalist economy. Why wait for the determination of the "rate of acceleration of productivity." Does it take a great statistician to show that if the full productive power of the U.S. were used, at its present technological level (not to speak of the prospects of automation and atomic power) there would be an unprecedented flow of all the useful goods we and the rest of the world need in unprecedented abundance?

REUTHRITE LINE

But for this America would have to be transformed into a country that produces for peace and not for the arsenals of every dictator and tyrant in the world.

This cannot be accomplished if the labor movement bases its demands on the concept that capitalist profits and capitalist war preparations come first.

The Reutherites argue that they are postponing the fight for a shorter work week in order to first secure the Guaranteed Annual Wage. They argue that we must be realistic and not try to accomplish everything at once.

This sounds plausible. But there is a bad hitch to the argument.

Why counterpose the GAW to a shorter work week? What good will a Guaranteed Annual Wage be to the auto workers, for example, if only 200,000 out of the 1,000,000, UAW members are working? How long would the 200,000 maintain their "guarantee" under those conditions.

MAIN DEMAND

The shorter work week demand is basic to every other demand the unions advance. It is the means for achieving a fundamental protection of the workers against the ravages of depression and automation utilized for capitalist profit. Without the struggle for the shorter work week the whole structure of the American workers standard of living and the union organizations which have been built in decades of struggle can be brought to ruin.

The most important point about the shorter work week demand is that it is the only basic answer to depression, and capitalist automation, that points the way to prosperity WITHOUT WAR.

If you scratch beneath the varnished surface of Reuther's program you will find the following:

The future and well being of the American workers is tied to the fortunes of American capitalism, and these fortunes in turn depend on the success of U.S. foreign policy. In plain words, this means a program that depends on capitalist war preparations, and finally on capitalist war. That's why the labor officials are so completely subservient to the capitalist politicians.

The alternative to this program is the program of class struggle against capitalism, against its depressions and its wars. This is the program of socialism, the idea that it is the workers and not the capitalists who hold the progressive future of the world in their hands. Such a program rejects the cowardly idea that the workers are only fit to be cannon fodder or assembly line slaves of the profit system.

Automation, like atomic power, can open undreamed of vistas for humanity, provided we take the socialist road.

Ted Michelson, unemployed Chrysler press operator, has filed his application for membership in the Detroit Kennel Club. Now awaits action of the Board of Directors on his admittance — MESA Educator.

World Events

TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND WORKERS IN BUENOS AIRES, attended a mass meeting on Nov. 25 called by the Peronista Party and the General Confederation of Labor (CGT) against the Catholic Church. Peron has charged that members of the Catholic hierarchy are trying to infiltrate the labor and youth movements. The conflict between the Church and the government broke out in the open on Nov. 10 over recent passage of a law advocated by the Peronistas and opposed by the hierarchy legitimatizing children born out of wedlock. The crowd at the Luna Party Stadium mass meeting carried posters, which highlighted the issues in dispute. According to Nov. 26 Chicago Daily News the posters said, "Priests go back to churches." "Separate church and state," "We want a divorce law."

* * *

SEVERAL FELLAGHA BANDS IN TUNISIA continued guerilla activity near Kairouan last week despite an agreement concluded between French imperialism and the moderate neo-Destour wing of the Tunisian nationalists to disarm all guerrillas under an amnesty guarantee. The Mendes-France government has offered the Tunisians "autonomy" within the French imperialist structure, but the Tunisians want complete national independence. This is true particularly for the younger generation. The Fellagha bands express this aspiration and have designated themselves the Army of Liberation.

* * *

N. M. PERERA, TROTSKYIST MAYOR OF COLOMBO, CEYLON, refused to vote for banning the Hollywood film, Red Menace. According to the Nov. 18, Samasamajist, paper of the Lanka Sama Samaja Party, Perera declared that "he disliked the film, which was a crude piece of American propaganda. However . . . he did not stand for the banning of films, merely because they put forward views contrary to his own."

* * *

THE STRUGGLE INSIDE THE BRITISH LABOR PARTY continued unabated last week despite a united stand of the Attlee and Bevan wings demanding Winston Churchill's immediate resignation as prime minister of England. Tribune, weekly paper of the Bevanites protested against the activities of Miss Alice Beacon, a member of the national executive board, contending according to the Dec. 3 N. Y. Times "that she was rooting out 'Trotskyites' in the party." Miss Beacon then resigned. Tribune also criticized Morgan Phillips, Secretary of the Labor Party, who gave French Socialists the impression that the whole Party supported the Paris accords for the rearming of Germany. The Bevanites oppose West German rearmament.

* * *

THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY IN ENGLAND won an important by-election on Nov. 18. John Wollam, the Tory candidate defeated Laborite Cyril Fenton in the West Derby district in Liverpool. The Tories won by a bigger margin than in 1951. Although rain and evening fog was blamed for keeping many workers away from the polls, Labor Party leaders are worried that this may indicate a trend in the country at the present time.

* * *

THE GERMAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATS won the elections for the West Berlin City Parliament and Senate held on Dec. 5. They obtained a slim majority, defeating Chancellor Adenauer's Christian Democratic Union Party and the Free Democrats, both capitalist parties. The strength of the Communist Party declined to 2.7% of the votes. The vote of the German Party which used methods similar to the Nazis including anti-Semitism was below 5 per cent. The victory of the Social Democrats reversed the results of the previous elections, when the Party lost its majority.

* * *

JAPAN will hold elections in the near future, since it is virtually certain that Prime Minister Yoshida can no longer obtain a vote of confidence in the Japanese Diet (Parliament). A coalition of Socialists and Democrats (who speak for a wing of the Japanese capitalists) will oppose Yoshida's Liberal Party. The campaign issue is expected to be trade with the Soviet bloc and the People's Republic of China. The Socialists and Democrats favor trade relation with those countries while Yoshida favors continued subservience of Japan to the U.S. government.

* * *

DR. JULIO LAZANO, new Honduran strong man, doesn't want to be called a dictator. "I prefer to be called a chief of state," he announced to the press. Lazano, who assumed all government powers — legislative, executive and judicial — is a rich man "who has had close connections with North American business interests in most of his professional life," according to Paul Kennedy, N. Y. Times staff writer. These include working for the United Fruit Company and the Transport Company.

For only $1.25 you can get a one-year subscription to the Marxist quarterly, Fourth International, 116 University Pl, New York 3, N. Y.

THE MILITANT

VOLUME XVIII | MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1954 | NUMBER 50

The Man at the Pump

By Max Behnke

In the Dec., 1954 Forum a heartrending story appears about Charles E. Wilson, U.S. Secretary of Defense and former president of General Motors. About time a kind word was said for him, because Charlie Wilson — as this magazine for businessmen affectionately calls him — is a much abused man.

For one thing, we learn he was misquoted when he said two years ago, "What's good for General Motors is good for the country." "The point I was trying to make," Wilson explains, "was that General Motors is a part of the whole industrial United States, that its interests were tied in to the interests of the United States."

"Tied in" is right! The interests of General Motors were tied in to the interests of the country the way a bucket is tied in to a well — that is, by means of a pump. Charlie Wilson became the man at the pump when he became Secretary of Defense.

The result was amply rewarding for General Motors. According to Sen. Jackson (D-Wash.), GM tied in to the nation's treasury to the tune of nearly $7 billion in contracts since Wilson assumed his government post. This, said Jackson, was $1.4 billion more than the contracts awarded to all other auto firms who tied in for only $5.6 billion.

But though General Motors gained, it seems that Charles E. Wilson lost. The Senate would not let him man his station at the pump unless he sold his stock in GM. After all, he was supposed to be working for the U.S. government not just for General Motors, and the Senators thought it might look suspicious if the man at the pump also owned the bucket.

There were rumors that he cleared a neat profit on the sale of the stock, but Wilson "takes a . . . wry view" of this contention. Today, the stock, he says, is "up $25 over what I had to sell it for and that's a loss of about a million bucks, not counting dividends."

Poor Charlie Wilson had to make this sacrifice. So needless, too, since he wasn't really going to serve GM, only tie in its interests with those of the country.

But misery loves company, and Charles Wilson is not alone. His deputy is Robert Anderson, Texas banker and businessman. Secretary of the Army is Robert Stevens, onetime chairman of the board of his family's textile firm. Secretary of the Navy is Charles Thomas who once operated a chain of men's clothing stores on the West Coast. Secretary of the Air Force is Harold Talbott, onetime chairman of North American Aviation Co.

Then the Assistant Secretaries: Donald Quarles, formerly vice-President of Bell Laboratories and Western Electric; Frank Newbury, ex-vice-president from Westinghouse, and so on down the line.

They are all sacrificing, just like Wilson in order to tie in the interests of their companies with those of the United States.

Notes from the News

PROFIT MARGIN UP. A recent Senate Agriculture committee investigating milk processing plants in five states revealed that of ten plants surveyed seven had increased their profit margins. Their take went up from 7.7% to 27.9% from Jan. 1, 1951, to June 30, 1954. Dairy farmers, on the contrary, have not done as well, the study concedes.

* * *

N. J. RENT CONTROL TO END. The New Jersey legislature failed to act on an eighteen-month extension of rent control. This means that thousands of New Jersey workers will be faced with sharp hikes in rent. The only "solution" offered by Democratic Gov. Meyner, backed by most labor forces, was to call for a letter-writing campaign pleading with the state senators to restore rent control.

* * *

KODAK POCKETS $12 MILLION MORE IN PROFITS. Despite a drop of $13 million in pre-tax earnings the Eastman Kodak Co. made $12 million more in profits, after taxes, against the same period last year. During the first nine months 1954 net profits totaled $47 million compared with $35 million in 1953.

* * *

THE UNION-BUSTING drive of the Midwest Rubber Co., Warren Township, Michigan, was beaten back in a long, hard-fought battle. A full union shop agreement was signed on Friday Nov. 26. The strike, which was called by Local 452, United Rubber Workers (CIO) started April 26 and was finally won after a large number of Wayne and Macomb county local unions rallied to their support.

* * *

THE JOINT COMMITTEES of the Socialist Party and the Social Democratic Federation met Sunday Dec. 5, to again discuss possibilities and basis for merging the two organizations.

* * *

RECOGNITION OF CHINA DEBATED. Two West Point cadets were allowed to participate in the sixth annual Student Conference on United States Affairs, held at West Point Dec. 3. The subject was recognition of China. The two cadets, plus one from Annapolis, opposed such recognition. The authorities had first refused the cadets permission to debate but apparently reversed themselves on condition that the cadets oppose recognition.

* * *

FORD STILL USES LABOR SPIES. A plant "protection man" used a telescope to spy on the employees of the Dearborn Stamping plant, Ford Motor Co. A crane operator caught him in the act. The spy then took off with his telescope, fleeing in the opposite direction. Nov. 27 Ford Facts wants to know if "this is part of our American way of living under the company's human engineering program?"

* * *

HOW "RIGHT TO WORK LAWS" cripple the labor movement is being dramatically shown by the strike of 1,500 workers at the Kraft Food Co. in Chicago. The company is shifting production to its non-union plants in "right to work states" —Decatur, Georgia and Garland, Texas.

* * *

FEDERAL CHILD LABOR LAWS were violated by 5,258 employers during the last fiscal year. Labor Secretary Mitchell in an article in the American Weekly also told of 10,695 children illegally hired. "That is the number of violations we discovered," he wrote. "Thousands more undoubtedly went undetected."

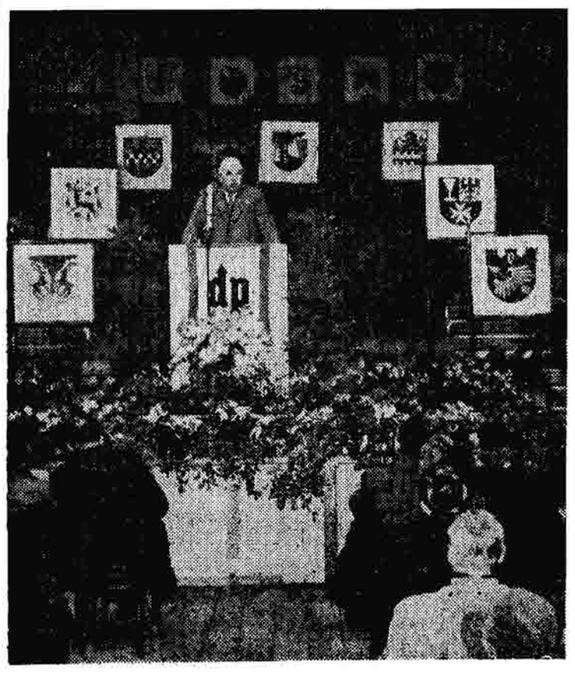
* * *

"THE LEAGUE OF TWENTY MILLION Americans for Censure of Joe McCarthy" announced it is going to stay in business. "He has yet to be condemned," the group spokesman said, "for McCarthyism as such; disrespect for the Constitution, violation of Civil rights, trial by headline."

* * *

AVERAGE AGE UP. Since 1940 the average age of women workers has advanced as much as in the preceding 40 years of this century, a recent survey discloses. The basic economic factor driving older women into the labor market is that one paycheck will not feed, clothe, and house the family.

Nazis Get Bolder in West Germany



Hans Christoph Seebohm, Chancellor Adenauer's Minister of Transport, addresses a meeting in Berlin. The gathering had all the familiar trappings of Nazism. Representatives of a SS Veterans group were wildly cheered. Two students mistaken for Jews were beaten when they refused to stand for the singing of the song Deutschland Uber Alles.

T-H Law, Blackjacks Take Over NMU Halls

By Art Sharon

The Taft-Hartley Act in conjunction with the blackjack, the knife and the gun has invaded the hiring halls of the nation's largest seamen's union, the CIO National Maritime Union through a door swung open by the union leaders.

Five years of crippling the NMU by the Curran policy of smashing of internal union democracy has ended in a serious defeat. The NMU union-controlled hiring hall, established by long and difficult strikes in the early Thirties, has now been breached. And now every other maritime union faces serious danger to its hiring halls.

HIRING HALL CONCEDED

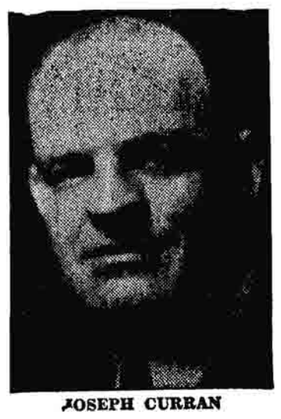
Last October the NMU national council capitulated to government and shipowner pressure on the hiring hall issue. Steered by President Joseph Curran, they voted to "comply with the law" and open the union halls to 15,000 more seamen. This action turned the union hiring hall into an employment office open to union and non-union seamen under supervision of the anti-labor National Labor Relations Board. The move struck at the very heart of the union's strength. The union hiring hall is the keystone of an arch of union control and union conditions aboard ship. With that keystone gone the entire structure begins to crumble and collapse.

The capitulation of the union leadership brought an outraged reaction from the ranks — especially from the thousands of unemployed members on the beach. The Curran gang now has its hands full in a serious internal fight trying to put over its program of defeat. **The leadership has begun to fragment under the developing pressure of rank and file hostility. One prominent member of Curran's official family, John T. Hunt, New York Port Agent, apparently figured he would get his while the getting was good and now faces trial for selling union membership books.**

Other officials are parting company with Curran in the crisis. Vice President Adrian Duffy and Treasurer M. Hedley Stone who have served the Curran machine for years as hatchet men are yielding to rank and file pressure for some kind of resistance.

CURRAN GOONS

With little support in the union ranks Curran turned to outright violence to put over his policy. At one of the largest union meetings held in recent years, 5,000 union members jammed New York's Manhattan Center Hall, Nov. 29, and voiced opposition to the Curran program. The meeting was adjourned by the officials present as the massed seamen



JOSEPH CURRAN

shouted with bitterness at the Curran gang.

Meanwhile a petition started circulating in the NMU halls calling for a special meeting to consider the stand of the leadership. The union Port Agent, who is required to call such a meeting upon the presentation of a petition, refused to do so and the petition circulators convened the meeting themselves.

The desperate Curran gang seized the opportunity to try a demonstration of brutal power. Curran's goon squad descended upon the meeting, picked out several young sailors at random and gave them an unmerciful beating. While these victims were lying on the floor the goons "put the boots" to them. They were then lifted bodily and pitched down the stairs. This was Curran's answer to anyone who challenged his program of surrendering the union-controlled hiring hall.

TURNING POINT

A turning point has been reached in the 18-year history of the National Maritime Union — and the other unions are not far behind. The union leaders raised the slogan "comply with the law," and are enforcing compliance with a criminal campaign of terror.

Curran's pledge last year to a meeting of the NMU National Council that he for one was prepared to go to the barricades to defend the union hiring hall against the Taft-Hartley Act turns out to have been empty bombast. **The rank and file seamen are bitter at the betrayal. Curran's terror campaign has stunned them but the battle with the rank and file is not yet over.**

Our Readers Take the Floor

More on Workers Reactions to Election

Editor:

I noticed in your paper that you are printing workers reactions to the elections. In my shop they still feel that the Democrats are better than the Republicans but that they are still a bunch of politicians who you can't expect too much of. I have heard approximately a dozen different workers say, though, that if the workers and farmers vote together they can elect any one they want.

I agree with most of your articles and consider your paper very educational. I feel though that McCarthy and the fascist movement behind him is a lot stronger than you seem to realize. I don't believe it wise to wait until the fascist army of hoodlums is formed before you label it a *fascist movement*. Despite my views though I am glad to see you do not donate half your paper to him but keep it down to generally one main story. I think it is important to print labor news and the news of the Negro struggle. Also the letters on the question of woman's role in society were interesting.

P. E.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Grim Humor!

Editor:

Some people advocate that America offer some of our great store of surplus food to aid the hungry flood victims in Communist China. Can they not understand how ridiculous an action it would be to feed our enemies? The demented individual who said, "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good," is as subversive today as when the words were uttered. In fact he sounds exactly like a Communist to me.

Since no Communist can ever be trusted, it should be obvious that complete extermination is the only course we peace-loving people can pursue. We should not use halfway measures, however, like a blockade of China's coast which might provoke war and cause ultimately as much damage to ourselves as to the enemy. There is no need for such weak measures when we have at our disposal an unimaginably devastating pair of secret weapons.

All we need do is send Senators Knowland and McCarthy to the trouble makers. Subjected to Knowland's fierce scowl of self-righteous wrath, most of the Communist leaders would undoubtedly be stricken with heart failure. The few who might survive this, Joe could easily talk to death. Simple as that!

R. F. B.
Milan, Michigan

Facts that Should Not Be Forgotten

Editor:

I would like to emphasize that the Truman administration began by condemning one million men, women and children to die in flames in Tokyo in May, 1945 and it doomed countless others to the same horrible death in all the principal Japanese cities during the spring and summer of that year! This was even before the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atrocities!

I don't think these facts should be forgotten!

I certainly do not dispute the fact that the economic contradictions of decayed capitalism impel our ruling class to war, but war itself is no excuse for mass murder of those who are not even near a battlefield!

Something else is involved besides a war drive! Capitalism has decayed morally as well as economically.

We now see the abominable cruelty, delight in human suffering, lust for atrocities, and ever-increasing insanity, that characterize ruling classes in their last stages!

As proof of this opinion, I submit a quotation, which is more than a year old, from Congressman Thomas O'Neill from Massachusetts. I think it was nearly two years ago that he made the following statement, which I have saved from the Cambridge Chronicle-Sun:

"Today we can destroy more people more quickly than the hordes of Genghis Khan, who, centuries ago, wiped out the populace of towns, even countries! ! !"

B. M.
Cambridge, Mass.

Ellis Island Closed -- Detainees Put in Jails

By John Thayer

The U.S. Immigration Department's treatment of aliens has become so scandalous since the closing of Ellis Island that even the arch conservative New York Times has felt constrained to crusade on the subject.

Ellis Island was closed down as an economy measure in the middle of November. Last year 38,000 people were detained there. Most of these were incoming visitors held for clearance — **usually political. In addition there were many American residents caught up by the deportation delerium that followed the passage of the McCarran Act of 1950. Technically Ellis Island was listed as a place of detention and not a prison.**

Now the condition of these detainees has become incomparably worse. The men have been transferred to a federal prison in Manhattan and the women to Westchester County Jail.

In a letter of protest in the November 16 New York Times, Pearl Buck, the noted author, wrote: "Here their plight is exactly the same as though they were common criminals. They are locked up with murderers, drug addicts and other degenerate types. Their food is inadequate, their bed mattresses dirty. They have little opportunity to get fresh air, and they must perform labor such as criminal prisoners perform. . . It is very urgent that something be done immediately to remedy the situation. Meanwhile husbands are separated from wives and children from parents. One lady from Rumania, for example, cannot see her 12-year-old son because no one under 16 is allowed to visit in the prison where she is incarcerated."

A further protest came from the New York Attorney General-elect, Congressman Javits, the liberal Republican who defeated F. D. Roosevelt, Jr. in the recent elections. This evoked another Times editorial (Dec. 6) entitled "Second Class Humans." It angrily called for an immediate end to the throwing of people, whose only crime is that they are not U.S. citizens, into prison.

The labor movement has already picked up the issue and the Dec. 15 Advance, organ of the CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union, featured a story entitled "Prisons Replace Ellis Island" giving the facts as outlined above.

The closing of Ellis Island brings to mind the Carl Skoglund case. This 70-year old labor militant was recently incarcerated on

CARL SKOGLUND

Ellis Island for four and a half months. He is fighting deportation to Sweden whence he came in 1911. Efforts of civil liberties defenders, spearheaded by Norman Thomas, finally succeeded in getting him released on bond one month before Ellis Island was closed.

Less than 48 hours after his release he was rushed to a hospital for an emergency operation. Now he is recovering but is under doctor's care not only for post-operative reasons but for a cardiac condition.

Had Skoglund's defenders not been successful in getting him released on bond he would have been transferred to a New York prison along with the other unfortunate victims of the McCarran Act. At his advanced age and state of health such a transfer could be tantamount to a death sentence.

At present the deportation order against the former Minneapolis labor leader still stands. An unfavorable development in his case — such as the sudden cancellation of his bond last May — would now result in his being sent to prison.

In order to fight against such a possibility as well as to help pay the heavy hospital expenses incurred during his recent illness the Skoglund Defense needs help. Contributions should be sent to Civil Rights Defense Committee, 68 Fifth Ave., New York 11, N. Y.

NAACP Protests Long Island, NY Jim-Crow Schools

A fight against school segregation has begun in Amityville, Long Island. Petitions are being circulated by the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to prevent the construction of two new school buildings, one in the Negro neighborhood and the other in the white area.

The school board attempts to justify its plan on the ground that it follows from segregation in housing. Mrs. Constance Motley, NAACP attorney, reminded the school board that the U.S. Supreme Court decision requires school authorities to prevent segregation in education.

The NAACP will ask the school board to adopt the so-called "Princeton Plan" which will require all the children in the village to go to one school up to the third grade and the other school for the fourth to sixth grades. Although many children would still need transportation, the adoption of the NAACP proposal would work toward desegregation rather than deepen segregation.

Other towns on Long Island, New York face similar problems as the construction of new schools to accomodate the increased population begins. The need to settle the issue while the project is still in the planning stage should be clear. Attorney Motley said the issue may be tested in the courts.

The fight against segregation in Amityville is another demonstration of the fact that a struggle in the north is also necessary if the Supreme Court decision is to be enforced.

$1.00 • CHRISTMAS SALE • $1.00

The following books — originally priced up to $5.00 — are now available for $1.00 apiece (plus 15 cents mailing and handling charge per book). Order now for Christmas mailing.

1. YOUNGBLOOD by John O. Killens — a novel of the Negro struggle
2. THE BENDING CROSS by Ray Ginger — best biography of Eugene Debs
3. IN PLACE OF FEAR by Aneurin Bevan — the left Laborite's political credo
4. THE SIN OF THE PROPHET by Truman Nelson — exciting novel of the Abolitionists
5. TITO by Vlado Dedijer — biography by Tito's civil-war secretary
6. THE EAGLE AND THE ROOTS by Louis Adamic — the slain author's last work, on Yugoslavia
7. THE REBELLION OF THE HANGED by B. Traven — stirring novel of the Mexican Revolution
8. THE GEOGRAPHY OF HUNGER by Jose de Castro — authoritative picture of world's undernourishment
9. THE STRANGE CASE OF ALGER HISS by The Earl Jowitt — an English legal expert examines the Hiss trial
10. THE CORPUS OF JOE BAILEY by Oakley Hall — a social novel of the last 20 years
11. HORACE GREELEY — VOICE OF THE PEOPLE by Wm. Hale — biography of the famous editor, abolitionist and socialist sympathizer
12. CRISIS IN FREEDOM by John C. Miller — the alien and sedition acts
13. LIVING THOUGHTS OF KARL MARX by Leon Trotsky
14. THE JEWISH QUESTION by A. Leon (paper covers) — best Marxist analysis of subject

Place orders at once. Payment must accompany orders.

PIONEER PUBLISHERS

116 University Place New York 3, N. Y.

First English Translation

WHAT IS ECONOMICS?

By Rosa Luxemburg

54 pages (mimeographed, stiff cover)

$1.00

Order from

Pioneer Publishers 116 University Place

New York 3, N. Y.

Detroit Fri. Night Socialist Forum

The Role of the Middle Class In American Society
Friday, Dec. 17, at 8 P. M.
Speaker: Sarah Lovell

•

No forum Christmas Eve. There will be a New Year's Eve Party Dec. 31 starting 9 P. M. Regular weekly forums will be resumed Friday, Jan. 7.

•

At 3000 Grand River
Donation 25c.
Free to Unemployed

NEW YORK CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Hand-made leather belts — Enamel over copper jewelry — Guatemalan hand-strung & knotted beads — Childrens toys and books — Women's & childrens clothes — Hand-made aprons, hats & purses — Appliances — and many other articles.

Sat. Dec. 11, from Noon on
Militant Hall
116 University Place
(near Union Square)
REFRESHMENTS